

Reports of the Selectmen and Superin-  
tending School Committee of the Town of  
Bow for the year ending March 1, 1869.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

The amount of taxes assessed in the town of Bow, for the year  
1868, is \$7,445.28

RECEIPTS

By balance in the hands of the Treasurer	\$142.82
April 1, 1868 Received of Joseph H. Moore, on note	200.00
June 9, " " City of Manchester, bank tax for 1867	24.50
July 8, " " Willeby Colby, Jr., on note	100.00
Nov. 5, " " Eli Alexander, on note	300.00
Nov. 7, " " Mary Sweatt, on note	709.24
Dec. 2, " " State Treasurer, savings bank tax	531.66
Dec. 2, " " State Treasurer, railroad tax	449.86
Dec. 2, " " " literary fund	34.92
Dec. 2, " " " U. S. bounties	200.00
Jan. 22, 1869 " John Jefferson, on note	250.00
Feb. 11, " " County of Merrimack, for support of paupers	51.07
Feb. 20, " " John B. Green, collector of taxes for the year 1867	885.66
Feb. 20, " " Horace H. Parker, for use of Buntin place	16.00
" Meshech Cate, collector of taxes for the year 1868	6,966.75
" Enoch Alexander, it being for money overpaid on county treasurer's receipt for the year 1867,	50.00
	<hr/> \$10,912.48

EXPENDITURES

Paid notes and interest	\$6,149.68
" Wm. Butterfield for printing town report for the year ending March 1, 1868	15.00
" B. W. Sanborn & Co., for books and stationery	11.83

Paid A. B. Farmer, for support of Charles Perin, and damage on account of contract made for said Perin's support	21.00
" Margaret Morgan, for support of Mrs. Bond	67.00
" Aaron Colby, 2d, for board of T. L. Morgan, from March 1, 1868 to May 1, 1868	24.84
" John T. Morgan, for groceries for Hannah Colby	.54
" Martha Elliott, for the support of Amos G. Colby from March 1, 1868 to Aug 1, 1868	60.00
" Dr. Little, for medical attendance for Amos G. Colby	7.50
" Jonathan C. Ordway, for boarding John Buntin three weeks	8.01
" For support of schools	910.49
" Parker Brown, for lumber for bridges	13.97
" Non-resident highway tax receipts	62.83
" Samuel Elliott, for boarding John Buntin from July 9, 1868 to Oct. 16, 1868	43.00
" State treasurer, State tax	1,893.75
" County treasurer, County tax	775.86
" Amos Johnson, for boarding T. L. Morgan four weeks	10.00
" For abatement of taxes for the year 1867-8	40.93
" Wm. Marshall and others, for clothes and shoes for John Buntin	28.14
" Meshech Cate, for provision for E. Barro, county pauper	25.00
" Richard W. Goodhue, for nursing and funeral charges of Gardner Woodbury a county pauper	29.00
" Francis W. Colby, for services as S. S. Committee	34.00
" Horace H. Parker, for boarding T. L. Morgan from May 29, 1868 to April 1 1869	110.00
" John C. Hammond, for services as town clerk	15.00
" Guilford Upton and others for plank for bridges	14.50
" Byron W. Clough, for school district tax	141.17
" J. C. Hammond, for boots for John Buntin in 1867	5.25
" Samuel Hadley, for board &c., of John Buntin from Oct. 16, 1868 to April 1, 1869	78.00
" Wm. Butterfield for advertising paupers	1.00
" Independent Press for advertising paupers	1.00
" N. H. Asylum, for board of Polly Johnson	49.30
" Joseph Brown, for coffin and robe for Mrs Bond	13.00
" Meshech Cate, for abatement of taxes for the year 1868	31.14
" Willard Merrill, for horse hire	1.50
" Mendell Sampson, for running out a road on Moses Brown's land	1.25
" Enoch Alexander, for services as town treasurer	10.00



Paid Meshech Cate, for collecting taxes	65.00
" Auditors	3.00
" Andrew Gault, for services as selectman	70.00
" Enoch Alexander, services as selectman	40.00
" Samuel C. Clement, services as selectman.	30.00

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\$10,912.48

### OUTSTANDING NOTES AGAINST THE TOWN.

Date of notes	Principal.	Am't due
Jan. 6, 1863 Lucia G. Clement	\$200.00	\$285.85
Jan. 7, " Enoch Alexander	400.00	400.00
Sept. 18, 1863 Caleb F. Perrin	1000.00	1414.11
Sept. 18, " James S. Norris	2000.00	2052.00
Oct. 5, " L. A. Colby	400.00	409.67
April 19, 1864 Timothy Hammond	800.00	800.00
July 22, " Benjamin A. Noyes	1,000.00	1307.17
July 22, " Sarah S. Heselton	100.00	130.70
July 22, " Nancy C. Benson	250.00	326.34
Aug. 8, " James O. Clark	300.00	391.60
Aug. 16, " Guilford Upton	100.00	130.18
Aug. 16, " Jesse Colby	200.00	166.22
Aug. 16, " Isaac E. Dow	200.00	260.35
Aug. 18, " James Brown	300.00	390.47
Sept. 2, " Matilda Stewart	200.00	259.72
Feb. 20, 1865 Samuel E. Austin	135.00	170.55
March 20, " Orin Clough	315.00	396.17
Ap'r. 11, " Betsey Tenney	1,000.00	1,253.15
Ap'r. 17, " John C. Davis	125.00	84.82
Aug. 3, " Willeby Colby, Jr.,	100.00	122.69
Aug. 3, " James Walker	100.00	122.69
Nov. 20, " Moses B. Abbott	900.00	1,088.69
Dec. 15, " Richard Rowe	128.00	154.19
May 15, 1866 Amos H. Messer	100.00	117.70
June 5, " N. H. Savings Bank	1,500.00	404.00
June 15, " Lucy Moulton	400.00	468.54
July 11, " John H. Knott	467.00	544.70
July 16, " Isaac E. Dow	600.00	696.18
Aug. 20, " Willeby Colby, Jr.,	100.00	115.88
Aug. 21, " Charles Barker	700.00	544.69
Mar. 23, 1867 Willeby Colby, Jr.,	200.00	223.90
Mar. 30, " James Brown	300.00	335.49
May 21, " Willeby Colby, Jr.,	100.00	110.87
June 12, " Langdon Ordway	100.00	110.59
June 15, " John H. Knott	223.00	246.53
June 15, " Rachael J. Knott	332.50	367.27
Apr. 1, 1868 Joseph H. Moore	200.00	211.00
July 8, " Willeby Colby, Jr.,	100.00	103.86

Nov. 5, 1868, Eli Alexander	300.00	305.75
Nov. 7, " Mary Sweatt	709.24	722.71
Jan. 22, 1869 John Jefferson	250.00	251.58
Due Enoch Alexander, town treasurer on settlement		63.93

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\$18,062.50

#### DEBTS DUE THE TOWN.

Due from the United States for bounties	1442.00
" Meschech Cate collector of taxes for the year 1868	478.53
" Meshech Cate interest received on taxes	15.00
" James Mills	97.28

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\$2032.81

Amount of liabilities	\$18,062.50
Amount due the town	2,032.81

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Balance against the town	\$16,029.69
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ANDREW GAULT,	} Selectmen	
ENOCH ALEXANDER,		of
S. C. CLEMENT,		Bow.

The undersigned, auditors of the selectmen's accounts for the year ending March 1, 1869, certify that we have examined said accounts and find them correctly cast and well vouched

CHAS. H. WHEELER,	} Auditors.
ANDREW NOYES,	



## SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

FELLOW CITIZENS :—In presenting the annual report, it is proposed first to speak briefly of the school in each district in regard to its general appearance and present standing.

### DISTRICT NO. 1.

Summer term of nine weeks taught by Miss Mary E. Corliss of this town. Miss Corliss is evidently an honest, hard-working teacher and labored to promote the best interests of her pupils, and we think with a good degree of success. Whole number of scholars 11, average attendance 9. Not receiving any notice concerning the winter school nor any register we are unable to make a report of the same.

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### DISTRICT NO. 2.

Summer term of eight weeks taught by Miss Martha J. Walker of Alexandria ; this appeared to be a quiet, peaceable school, the teacher evidently tried to do right, and labored for the improvement of her scholars, but we should have been glad to have seen a greater manifestation of energy and force of character on the part of the teacher, and a corresponding interest on the part of the scholars. Whole number of scholars 13, average 11.

Winter term of eight weeks taught by Mr. John C. Hammond of this town ; this was emphatically a good school, Mr. Hammond's previous well-earned reputation was fully sustained, and the progress of the school was highly creditable, and we have reason to believe satisfactory to the people of the district. Number of scholars 13, average attendance 11.

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### DISTRICT NO. 3.

Both terms taught by Miss S. F. Holmes of this town. Miss Holmes is a teacher of experience, well qualified and interested in the work. The advancement made and the present standing of the school are deserving of praise and worthy of imitation. Number of scholars first term eight, average six. Second term ten, average eight. First term six weeks, second term eight.

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### DISTRICT NO. 4.

Both terms taught by Miss M. Ella Doe of Pembroke ; this school is quite small and the scholars mostly young ; the teacher evidently labored for the improvement of her pupils and we think with a good degree of success. The classes in reading appeared

very well, in fact we are not sure but that the teacher accomplished about all that could reasonably be expected under the circumstances and with the material at hand. Number of scholars in Summer eight, average six, Winter eight, average seven. Summer term eleven weeks, Winter fifteen.

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#### DISTRICT NO. 5.

One term of fourteen weeks taught by Miss Lucy A. Connor of Andover. Miss Connor is a teacher of good qualifications, and we think she labored diligently and earnestly and from good motives to promote the welfare of the pupils committed to her care. A good degree of improvement was manifest at the close of the school, but we think it might have been greater if the teacher's efforts had been met and seconded by a corresponding disposition on the part of her scholars, a portion of them at least; the prudential committee is deserving of credit for his efforts, first, to secure a good teacher and also to render the school useful and profitable to the district. Whole number of scholars 12, average 8.

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#### DISTRICT NO. 6.

One term of ten weeks taught by Miss Luthera J. Wheeler of this town. There are but few scholars in this district, but the school was filled up with others from out of the district so that quite an interesting term of school was the result. Miss Wheeler is an excellent teacher and we think her labors were rewarded with good results. Whole number of different scholars 21. Whole number resident in the district 7. Average attendance of scholars living in the district 4.

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#### DISTRICT NO. 7.

Both terms taught by Miss Georgia Clough of this town. This school appeared to be quiet and pleasant, there seemed to be a harmony of feeling and action between teacher and scholar. Although small in numbers a good degree of interest was manifest and creditable progress made. Summer term seven weeks, number of different scholars 12, average 5. Winter term ten weeks, number of scholars 8.

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#### DISTRICT NO. 8.

Summer term of seven weeks taught by Miss Julia A. Doe of Pembroke, this school appeared to be well conducted and the results in a good degree satisfactory. Number of scholars attending the school 14; number resident in the district 9. Winter term of 11 weeks taught by Miss A. A. Locke of East Concord; Miss Locke is a teacher of considerable experience and evidently ranks as one of the best: the closing examination gave evidence that her



efforts in this instance had been well directed; a marked and decided improvement in the general character and appearance of the school was manifest. Number of scholars 8, average attendance 7.

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#### DISTRICT NO. 9.

One term of eight weeks taught by Miss S. Lilla Dow of Henniker. Of this school, or rather of the teacher, we can say but little that is praiseworthy. There was material here for a good school if it had been in right hands or rightly employed. Whatever may have been the teacher's qualifications in other respects, truth compels us to say that we think she was too indolent and lazy to make the necessary effort to produce any lasting benefit, or advance the school to any degree worthy of notice. In her final report, which by the way is very deficient, especially in the statistics of the school, she makes the remark that she thinks "the school ranks quite well." If this is so, your committee would be of the opinion that the obligation to her is pretty small. Number of scholars 15, average attendance not given.

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#### DISTRICT NO. 10.

Summer term of seven weeks taught by Miss Luthera J. Wheeler of this town. Miss Wheeler deservedly ranks as one of our best teachers, thoroughly qualified as we believe for the work. She labored earnestly and faithfully for the benefit of the pupils placed in her care, and with good results. Whole number different scholars 24, average attendance 18. Number resident in the district 14. Winter term of nine weeks taught by Miss Rebecca Merrill of Dunbarton. In some respects we should say the teacher in this school was successful, in others not. If it was her desire to play the role of the petty tyrant, we think she succeeded, or if she wished to secure the dislike and ill-will of her scholars and a large share of the parents likewise, she evidently succeeded in that. Charity would lead us to hope that the errors committed were rather of the head than the heart, but we think with her present ideas of duty and discipline in the school room, she had better find employment in some other field of labor. On the whole we think but little good was accomplished during the winter term of school in this district. Whole number of scholars 19, average attendance 15.

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#### DISTRICT NO. 11.

Summer term of eight weeks taught by Miss Bella A. Austin of Hooksett. Miss Austin possesses the characteristics of a good school teacher in an eminent degree, wide awake, energetic and thorough-going in all the duties and requirements of the school

room ; the conduct and general appearance of the school at the close of the term was creditable to all concerned. Whole number of different scholars 21, average attendance 18. Number of scholars resident in the district 16. Winter term of 11 weeks taught by Mr. Rufus H. Wheeler of this town. This was Mr. Wheeler's first attempt at teaching. The school seemed united and prosperous under his care, and with more experience we think he might rank as a worthy and acceptable instructor in our common schools. Whole number of scholars 15, average attendance 14.

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#### DISTRICT NO. 12.

One term of eleven weeks taught by Miss Luthera J. Wheeler of this town ; the remarks made in reference to other schools kept by the same teacher will apply to this. The teacher in her report speaks in favorable terms of the good conduct and cheerful obedience of the scholars. The exercises at the closing examination gave evidence of a very marked and decided improvement in the character of the school. Average attendance during the term 12.

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#### DISTRICT NO. 13.

Both terms taught by Miss Lestena W. Stone of Dunbarton. The school in this district did not commence till September, part of the scholars had been attending school during the Summer in other places and others had not been to school for nearly a year, so that here were two classes, the one needing to be aroused to action, the other to be encouraged to perseverance, which difficult task we think the teacher succeeded in accomplishing in a manner highly creditable. Kind hearted and ambitious to have her scholars do well she evidently labored with untiring patience and diligence to that end, and we think her labors were well rewarded. Number of scholars first term 8, average 7. Number of scholars in second term 9, average 8. Number weeks, eight each term.

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#### DISTRICT NO. 14.

Both terms taught by Miss Hannah W. Heath of this town, Miss Heath is a teacher of experience and ability, and the school under her care attained a good degree of improvement. The closing examinations were seasons of interest and reflected credit upon both teacher and pupils. Number of weeks in Summer seven, Winter six. Number scholars in Summer 14, average 11, number of scholars in Winter 18, average 15.

Before concluding this report a few thoughts and suggestions of a more general character may not be out of place. In reporting the whole number of scholars attending school in some of the



districts the number thus reported is larger than really belong in the district, from the fact that scholars come in from other districts, and where it can be done to advantage we think the practice a good one.

The only change made in text books has been the introduction of Guyot's Geographies which are now partially or wholly in use in most of the schools in town, a change which has been of great practical benefit as we believe ; the recitations at the closing examination of some of the classes using this work were the best we have ever heard ; without any disparagement to others we would mention the schools in Districts Number 2, 3, 7, 8, 10, and 12, as deserving of notice, the teachers for the manner in which they took hold of the work, and the pupils for the interest and enthusiasm manifest on their part. We hope another season will find a larger number of our scholars studying geography, and that Guyot's Series will be used to the exclusion of all others. We say this for the reason that we believe his system to be by far the best now in use. We are more strongly than ever of the opinion that we have too many districts in town for the number of scholars and the amount of money raised, a larger per cent. of the money than we can well afford to lose, is thus used up year after year without receiving any just equivalent in return ; probably half or more of the schools in town will only average five or six to eight or ten scholars that attend during the year. It would seem that a moment's thought should convince any one that such schools cannot in the nature of things be profitable. Many of the districts need better school houses. Would it not be well before building to look the ground over and see if something cannot be done to re-district or re-organize on some plan that would reduce the number of school buildings and consequently give us larger and better schools ? There has been fifteen different teachers employed during the year ; your committee has made forty two visits to the schools ; the number of visits by citizens and others according to the registers 291. While our schools have not as yet attained that standard of excellence which we could wish, yet there are many things to encourage and prompt to still greater efforts than have yet been made. We think the schools during the past year, taken as a whole, will compare favorably with previous years ; the same we think can justly be said of the teachers. Much might be said in this connection in regard to our common schools as a source of moral influence and power, and the intimate relations existing between the school and our higher aims and duties in life. In a word, the bond of union which exists or should exist between our school system and the christian religion, to quote from another "Through our free churches and free schools we have gained all that we have that is valuable." Let us continually adorn, exalt and cherish both together. Learning and

religion are twin sisters alike lovely. Let us give them like regard, let us bestow upon them like gifts. In the words of one of our poets, the State never

“dreads the sceptic’s puny hands,  
While near her school the church-spire stands;  
Nor fears the blinded bigot’s rule,  
While near the church-spire stands the school.”

F. W. COLBY, S. S. Committee

Bow, February 24, 1869.